

# HEART FOR AFRICA



August 2015

Larson Mission Update

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*“Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, But a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised.”*

**Proverbs 31:30**

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As we mentioned briefly in our last newsletter, the Lord blessed us with our first class of the Mount Kilimanjaro Women's Training Center (MKWTC) in June. This program takes female leaders through the same program of Bible training and practical teaching exercises as their male counterparts. In this first session we completed a book-by-book survey of the New Testament and a verse-by-verse study through the book of Acts. We would like to introduce you to this first MKWTC class as they are a special group of talented and hard-working women, completely devoted to serving the Lord and His people. (from the left to right) Teddy, Greven, Joyce, Regina, Martha, Pendo, Itikisaeli, and Amalia.



*"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."*  
1 Corinthians 15:58



This class was 3 years in the making as it is rare for us to have quality female leaders attend our Inductive Bible Study seminars. We are just as selective in choosing the women as we are the men. We learned a number of things as we proceeded through the selection and calling process. As the culture and society relies heavily on the work of its women, we find the situation for those involved with the church to be no different. Ten women were invited and scheduled to attend, but at the last minute two cancelled out because the need in their family was too great for them to be absent for 10 straight days. Even the women who attended were very concerned about how their families were faring in their absence.

*"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."*  
1 Timothy 2:15

Something which we see every day is that the women are used to working extremely hard at whatever they do—whether in the home, the village, or the church. On the other hand, one of the greatest challenges we face with male pastors is convincing them of the importance of hard work in the context of their pulpit ministry. Many are conditioned to not even prepare a sermon each Sunday, but rather, just speak extemporaneous words of encouragement and exhortation while making very little use of the Biblical text. Even those who come to the Mt Kilimanjaro Pastoral Training Center have to be pushed very hard to get them to focus on completing the sermon preparation work as part of the practical preaching exercises each day.

We were very blessed by the women's desire to work diligently, not only in understanding the academic lessons, but in the preparation and delivery of the teaching work as well. No need to push them or challenge them to get the work done – it is natural for them! Across the board of all our training center classes, we have never seen such consistent, high quality written work as with this class. Not surprisingly, the diligent preparation translated into an amazing ability to convey their understanding of the text. It was easy for us to

forget these women were only in their first session because they taught inductively with great confidence and skill as if they were in their third and final session. We could also tell they were adapting well to the expositional style of teaching.

*"So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped them to understand the reading."*

**Nehemiah 8:8**



**Top: Students during class time**

**Right: Janice teaching and Edward translating**

**Bottom: Staff and students gathered together**

Janice was one of the instructors for this class, and she taught a number of the book surveys while also sharing some of her distinctive ministry insights from a woman's perspective. It was also helpful to hear from the women students in regard to the unique challenges they face. One of them is from the Maasai culture which, apart from Christ, is a very oppressive place for women. Her husband is a pastor and she now serves in leadership under his authority. We could tell she has a solid foundation of education from her youth. She remarked how the training is equipping her with a greater understanding of the entire Bible so she can share its truths with the church.

*"And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."*

**Colossians 3:17**



Catch up on our personal journey through our website news, and find many more pictures there.

[www.thelarsons.webs.com](http://www.thelarsons.webs.com)

# PICTURE OF THE MONTH



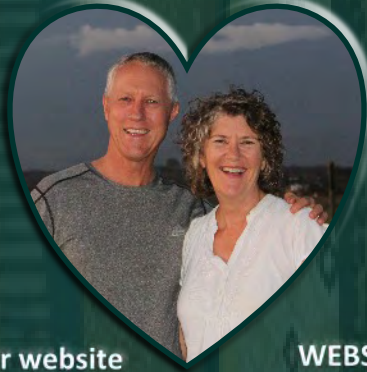
The Lord has blessed us very much by bringing a group of college-bound young people into our lives again through a Christian program designed to teach them life skills as they take the next step toward attending a university. We are with them 4 months and have already taught them Bible-based financial planning as well as personal relationship skills. We also spend each Sunday evening with them in worship and teaching of God's Word. We thank God for this opportunity to share His Word with these amazing young people.

## CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE & MAILED TO:

Intensive Care Ministries  
P.O. Box 109  
Mentone, CA 92359-0109

Note "LARSON" in Memo of check

On-line giving available via PayPal on our website



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## PRAYER ITEMS

- Praise the Lord for our local church pastor and his family having returned to Tanzania safely after a 15-month furlough and resuming leadership of our church!
- MKPTC Class #5 students attend final session Aug 5-14 with graduation on the 14<sup>th</sup>
- ICM Executive Director Dan Finfrock visits Aug 12-17 to meet with all ICM-TZ national missionaries, conduct training, and provide guidance and support.
- We celebrate 33 years of marriage on August 21! We could not have done it without putting Him first in our lives and in our marital relationship.
- The MKWTC Session 2 is Aug 26-Sep 4. Pray that each of the women is able to return to continue their training.